

Patent

Customer No. 31561
Attorney Docket No.: 12264-US-PA
Application No.: 10/708,805

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Applicant : Chen et al.
Application No. : 10/708,805
Filed : March 26, 2004
For : SYSTEM FOR ACCESSING A PLURALITY OF DEVICES
BY USING A SINGLE BUS AND CONTROL APPARATUS
THEREIN
Examiner : STGLIC, RYAN M
Art Unit : 12264-US-PA

REQUEST FOR REFUND

+1-571-273-6500
(Via Fax: 2 + 4 pages)

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Office of Finance, Mail Stop 16
Suite 300, Carlyle Place building,
2051 Jamieson Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Sir,

Applicants hereby respectfully request a refund of the independent claim fee in the amount of \$200.00 mistakenly deducted when filing the **Request for Continued Examination (RCE)** on September 10, 2007 for the above-identified application.

The Independent Claims Fee in excess of three was deducted as indicated in the **Appendix A. Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal** previously filed on November 24, 2006, and **Appendix B. Deposit Account Statement** for the month of November 2006 to Deposit Account No. 50-2620 in the amount of \$200.00.

There are 4 independent claims existed in the instant application, three were originally filed and the forth independent claim was added when filing the first Request For Continued Examination (RCE) on November 24, 2006; therefore, the total number of independent claims previously filed were 4 and the independent claim fee \$200.00 was already deducted from our Deposit Account No. 50-2620 on November 27, 2006 as shown on the Appendix B. Hence, there should be no charges to the independent claims when submitting the second Request for Continued Examination (RCE) on September 10, 2007.

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However, on September 11, 2007 the surcharge for the Independent Claim in the amount of \$200.00 was deducted again as shown on the Appendix C. Deposit Account Statement for the month of September 2007 to the Deposit Account No. 50-2620.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit a request for a refund of the independent claim fee mistakenly deducted in the amount of \$200.00 for the above-identified application.

Enclosed herewith please find the following documents for your reference:

- ☒ Appendix A. - Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal in 2 pages.
- ☒ Appendix B. - Deposit Account Statement for the month of November 2006 to the Deposit Account No. 50-2620 in 1 page.
- ☒ Appendix C. - Deposit Account Statement for the month of September 2007 to the Deposit Account No. 50-2620 in 1 page.

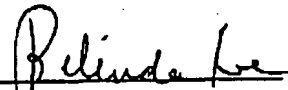
Thank you for your kind attention and assistance to this matter. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully Submitted,
JIANQ CHYUN Intellectual Property Office

Date:

Sept. 29, 2007

By:



Belinda Lee

Registration No.: 46,863

Please send future correspondence to:

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Appendix A.

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 Application No.: 10/708,805

PATENT

Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal Address To: Commissioner for Patents Customer Service Window Mail Stop RCE Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314	Application No.	: 10/708,805
	Filing Date	: March 26, 2004
	First Named Inventor	: CHEN et al.
	Group Art Unit	: 2112
	Examiner	: STIGLIC, RYAN M
	Attorney Docket No.	: 12264-US-PA

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. 1.114 of the above-identified application.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR §1.114.

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
 ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed
 ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- b. ☒ Enclosed
 ☒ Preliminary Amendment in (16) page(s).
 ☐ Other Documents in () page(s).

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of ____ month(s).
- b. ☐ Associate Power of Attorney.

3. Fees are calculated as follows:

	NUMBER FILED	CLAIMS FILED HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
Basic Fee				\$ 790	\$ 790
Total Claims	19	MINUS 20	= 0	x \$ 50	= \$ 0
Independent Claims	4	MINUS 3	= 1	x \$ 200	= \$ 200
[0] month(s) extension of time is hereby requested.					Time Extension Fee = \$ 990
					Total: \$ 990

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a. ☒ Please charge the fee in the amount of \$ 990 as calculated above to account No. 50-2620 (Order No.: 12264-US-PA).

b. If the payment is not fully covered in response thereof, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees required in connection with the filing of this paper to account No.: 50-2620 (Order No.: 12264-US-PA).

Date :

Nov 24, 2006

Respectfully Submitted,

Belinda Lee

Belinda Lee

Registration No.: 46,863

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Deposit Account Statement (November, 2006)

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Appendix B.

11/24 364	11556173	21009-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$100,816.00
11/24 365	11557961	19835-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$100,776.00
11/24 366	11556704	21845-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$100,736.00
11/24 367	11556161	21279-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$100,696.00
11/24 368	11558446	21029-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$100,656.00
11/24 369	11558447	21410-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$100,616.00
11/24 396	11551730	16812-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$100,576.00
11/24 2979	11563034	20998-US-PA	1011	\$300.00	\$100,276.00
11/24 2980	11563034	20998-US-PA	1111	\$500.00	\$99,776.00
11/24 2981	11563034	20998-US-PA	1311	\$200.00	\$99,576.00
11/24 263	10707736	10653-US-PA	1202	\$300.00	\$99,276.00
11/27 32	10707354	10485-US-PA	1501	\$1,400.00	\$97,876.00
11/27 33	10707354	10485-US-PA	1504	\$300.00	\$97,576.00
11/27 34	10248373	9969-US-PA	1501	\$1,400.00	\$96,176.00
11/27 35	10248373	9969-US-PA	1504	\$300.00	\$95,876.00
11/27 30	10708805	12264-US-PA	1201	\$200.00	\$95,676.00
11/27 31	10708805	12264-US-PA	1801	\$790.00	\$94,886.00
11/27 58	10604651	10958-US-PA	1801	\$790.00	\$94,096.00
11/27 60	10604883	10766-US-PA	1252	\$450.00	\$93,646.00
11/27 88	11469463	16969-US-PA	1051	\$130.00	\$93,516.00
11/28 255	11561417	21449-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$93,476.00
11/28 257	11561418	18291-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$93,436.00
11/28 259	11557972	18181-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$93,396.00
11/28 260	11567500	21043-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$93,356.00
11/28 263	11557973	19011-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$93,316.00
11/28 285	11558457	21943-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$93,276.00
11/28 267	11557503	19645-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$93,236.00
11/28 288	29250281	21992-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$93,196.00
11/28 227	11467927	21328-US-PA	8007	\$20.00	\$93,176.00
11/28 301	11559411	20842-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$93,136.00
11/28 23	09888225	15635-US-PA	1453	\$1,500.00	\$91,636.00
11/28 24	09886225	15635-US-PA	1401	\$500.00	\$91,136.00
11/28 25	09886225	15635-US-PA	1402	\$500.00	\$90,636.00
11/29 365	11559905	20843-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$90,596.00
11/29 367	11559412	18766-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$90,556.00
11/29 370	11559410	20945-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$90,516.00
11/29 371	11560838	19184-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$90,476.00
11/29 373	11560840	19836-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$90,436.00
11/29 374	11561897	18517-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$90,396.00
11/29 376	11560837	21667-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$90,356.00
11/29 377	11560843	18999-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$90,316.00
11/29 378	11559413	18725-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$90,276.00
11/29 379	11560839	21330-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$90,236.00
11/29 381	11561898	18345-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$90,196.00
11/29 383	11559908	20882-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$90,156.00
11/29 385	11559906	21951-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$90,116.00
11/29 386	11560841	21665-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$90,076.00
11/29 389	11559911	19138-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$90,036.00
11/29 390	11559909	18952-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$89,996.00
11/30 9	10907105	15818-US-PA	1201	\$400.00	\$89,596.00
11/30 247	10709430	12898-US-PA	1201	\$600.00	\$88,996.00

START BALANCE	SUM OF CHARGES	SUM OF REPLENISH	END BALANCE
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Deposit Account Statement (September, 2007)

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09/07 6188	11845745	21882-US-PA	8021	\$40.00	\$19,686.00
09/07 2	11162147	16630-US-PA	1501	\$1,400.00	\$18,286.00
09/07 3	11162147	16630-US-PA	1504	\$300.00	\$17,986.00
09/07 9	10907047	15785-US-PA	2501	\$700.00	\$17,286.00
09/07 10	10907047	15785-US-PA	1504	\$300.00	\$16,986.00
09/07 16	10064238	8868-US-PA	2501	\$700.00	\$16,286.00
08/07 17	10064238	8868-US-PA	1504	\$300.00	\$15,986.00
09/07 7811	60870603	22919-US-PA	8013	\$25.00	\$15,961.00
08/07 224	11161178	16401-US-PA	1501	\$1,400.00	\$14,561.00
08/07 225	11161178	16401-US-PA	1504	\$300.00	\$14,261.00
09/10 96	11563028	13128-US-PA-1	1501	\$1,400.00	\$12,861.00
08/10 97	11563028	13128-US-PA-1	1504	\$300.00	\$12,561.00
09/10 82	10710623	12574-US-PA	1251	\$120.00	\$12,441.00
09/10 119	10826176	21399-US-PA	1801	\$790.00	\$11,651.00
09/10 120	11308842	18979-US-PA	1801	\$790.00	\$10,861.00
09/10 68	11763448	24661-US-187	1201	\$400.00	\$10,461.00
09/10 69	11763448	24661-US-187	1202	\$50.00	\$10,411.00
09/11 1	10708805	12264-US-PA	1801	\$790.00	\$9,621.00
09/11 2	10708805	12264-US-PA	1201	\$200.00	\$9,421.00
09/11 7099	11774616	24888-US-187	8021	\$40.00	\$9,381.00
09/11 170	11162649	16244-US-PA	1501	\$1,400.00	\$7,981.00
09/11 171	11162649	16244-US-PA	1504	\$300.00	\$7,681.00
09/11 172	11306248	15788-US-PA	1501	\$1,400.00	\$6,281.00
09/11 173	11306248	15788-US-PA	1504	\$300.00	\$5,981.00
09/12 6863	11828330	24872-US-PA	8007	\$60.00	\$5,921.00
09/12 6898	11777295	24929-US-187(CA)	8021	\$40.00	\$5,881.00
09/12 9	11836142	16875-US-PA-1	1201	\$200.00	\$5,681.00
09/12 30	11162607	08834-US-PA-OP	1401	\$500.00	\$5,181.00
09/12 53	PAYMENT		9203	-\$99,985.00	\$105,166.00
09/13 11	11837548	21101-US-PA	1051	\$130.00	\$105,036.00
09/13 126	10905677	14644-US-PA	1501	\$1,400.00	\$103,636.00
09/13 127	10905677	14644-US-PA	1504	\$300.00	\$103,336.00
09/13 128	11160877	15618-US-PA	1501	\$1,400.00	\$101,936.00
09/13 129	11160877	15618-US-PA	1504	\$300.00	\$101,636.00
09/13 130	11558453	15362-US-PA-1	1501	\$1,400.00	\$100,236.00
09/13 131	11558453	15362-US-PA-1	1504	\$300.00	\$99,936.00
09/13 132	10906745	13182-US-PA	1501	\$1,400.00	\$98,536.00
09/13 133	10906745	13182-US-PA	1504	\$300.00	\$98,236.00
09/13 134	11308019	17807-US-PA	2501	\$700.00	\$97,536.00
09/13 135	11308019	17807-US-PA	1504	\$300.00	\$97,236.00
09/13 161	11335624	25108-US-PA	1251	\$120.00	\$97,116.00
09/13 152	11778668	19046-US-PA	1051	\$130.00	\$96,986.00
09/14 252	10709767	13292-US-PA	1501	\$1,400.00	\$95,586.00
09/14 253	10709767	13292-US-PA	1504	\$300.00	\$95,286.00
09/14 254	11553477	15139-US-PA-1	1501	\$1,400.00	\$93,886.00
09/14 255	11553477	15139-US-PA-1	1504	\$300.00	\$93,586.00
09/14 256	11308479	18727-US-PA	2501	\$700.00	\$92,886.00
09/14 257	11308479	18727-US-PA	1504	\$300.00	\$92,586.00

Appendix C.

START	SUM OF	SUM OF	END
BALANCE	CHARGES	REPLENISH	BALANCE
\$25,186.00	\$32,585.00	\$99,985.00	\$92,586.00

SEP 10 2007

Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/708,805
Docket No.: 12264-US-PAAMENDMENTIn the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

09/11/2007 PCHAMP 00000001 502620 10708805
02 FC:1201 200.00 CR

Claim 1 (currently amended) A system for accessing at least a first device and a second device in parallel, the first device and the second device being provided in parallel for the system, the system comprising:

a single shared bus, coupled to the first device;

a bus isolator, coupled to the shared bus and the second device for isolating the second device from the shared bus or connecting the second device to the shared bus; and

a control apparatus coupled to the shared bus so that the bus isolator isolates the second device from the shared bus when the control apparatus needs to access the first device and the bus isolator connects the second device with the shared bus when the control apparatus needs to access the second device.

Claim 2 (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the control apparatus further comprises:

a bus exchanger, coupled to the single shared bus for switching the authority for the single shared bus between ~~different devices~~ the first device and the second device; and

a bus arbitrator, coupled to the bus exchanger so that the bus arbitrator controls the bus exchanger to connect the single shared bus with a circuit internally linked to the first device when the control apparatus needs to access the first device and the bus arbitrator

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controls the bus exchanger to connect the single shared bus with a circuit internally linked to the second device when the control apparatus needs to access the second device.

Claim 3 (previously presented) The system of claim 2, wherein a pre-defined isolation period must pass before the bus exchanger is permitted to switch the device for authority for the single shared bus.

Claim 4 (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the second device comprises a memory card compatible device.

Claim 5 (original) The system of claim 4, wherein the memory card compatible device is either a memory card or a card reader.

Claim 6 (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the first device comprises a memory device.

Claim 7 (currently amended) A control apparatus for accessing a plurality of devices in parallel through a single bus, the control apparatus connects to a first device through a shared bus and the control apparatus also connects to a second device through the shared bus and a bus isolator, the first device and the second device being accessed in parallel by the control apparatus, the control apparatus comprising:

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a bus exchanger, coupled to the shared bus for switching the authority of device for the shared bus; and

a bus arbitrator coupled to the bus exchanger such that the bus arbitrator controls the bus exchanger to connect with a circuit internally linked to the first device and to activate the bus isolator to isolate the second device from the shared bus when the control apparatus needs to access the first device and the bus arbitrator controls the bus exchanger to connect with a circuit internally linked related to the second device when the control apparatus needs to access the first device.

Claim 8 (original) The control apparatus of claim 7, wherein the bus exchanger is set to wait for the passage of a pre-defined isolation period lasting from the end of accessing the first device to the start of accessing the second device before switching the control of the shared bus from the first device to the second device.

Claim 9 (original) The control apparatus of claim 7, wherein the second device comprises a memory compatible device.

Claim 10 (original) The control apparatus of claim 7, wherein the memory compatible device is either a memory card or a card reader.

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Claim 11 (original) The control apparatus of claim 7, wherein the first device comprises a memory unit.

Claim 12 (currently amended) A system using a single bus for accessing a plurality of devices in parallel, comprising:

a memory unit;

a memory card compatible device;

a shared bus, coupled to the memory unit; and

a control apparatus coupled to the shared bus such that the control apparatus controls the shared bus to connect with a circuit internally linked to [[the]] a first device when the control apparatus needs to access the first device and the control apparatus controls the shared bus to connect with a circuit internally linked to [[the]] second device when the control apparatus needs to access the second device.

Claim 13 (original) The system of claim 12, wherein a pre-defined isolation period must pass before the control apparatus is permitted to access the second device through the shared bus.

Claim 14 (original) The system of claim 12, wherein the memory card compatible device is either a memory card or a card reader.

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Claim 15 (original) The system of claim 12, wherein the memory unit comprises read-only memory.

Claim 16 (currently amended) A system using a single bus for parallel accessing a plurality of devices, comprising:

a first device;

a second device;

a shared bus, coupled to the first device;

a bus isolator, coupled to the shared bus and the second bus for isolating the second device from the shared bus or connecting the second device to the shared bus; and

a control apparatus coupled to the shared bus so that the bus isolator isolates the second device from the shared bus when the control apparatus needs to access the first device and the bus isolator connects the second device with the shared bus when the control apparatus needs to access the second device, wherein the bus isolator is controlled by the control apparatus to isolate the first device and the second device from the shared bus in consideration of signaling demand for data transmission to prevent any data error resulting from a mutual interference of the signal transmission between the first device and the second device, wherein the first device and the second device are connected in parallel to the apparatus.

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Claim 17 (previously presented) The system of claim 16, wherein a triggering signal is transmitted to the bus isolator for performing the isolation.

Claim 18 (previously presented) The system of claim 16, wherein if the signaling demand for data transmission on the shared bus for the second device is lower than the first device, the bus isolator connects the second device with the shared bus immediately when the control apparatus carries out data transmission to the second device.

Claim 19 (previously presented) The system of claim 16, wherein a pre-defined isolation period is expired when the bus exchanger is permitted to switch the first device or the second device for authority for the shared bus.

Claim 20 (new) The system of claim 1 further comprising a first bus connecting the control apparatus and the first device for controlling the first device and a second bus connecting the control apparatus and the second device for controlling the second device.